TRACE OF A TINY MUSLIM KINGDOM LOCATED IN SCOTLAND AND IRELAND CALLED DAL-RIADA IN 700 A.D

Selbach mac Fherchair Fota, High King of Dál Riada of the House of Lorn in the early 700s, was a Muslim and that there were many Moors in **Dál Riada**

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Pre-Modern Muslim–British Contact

The first of these historical phases has been written on sparsely but there are some interesting facts that should be considered. Rosser-Owen suggests that, ever since Egypt and Palestine came under Muslim control in the seventh century, Celts of western Britain came into contact with the Muslims through trade.[5] It is also reported that Selbach mac Fherchair Fota, High King of Dal Riada in the early 700s (a territory encompassing parts of northern Ireland and western Scotland) was a Muslim, as were some of his subjects. Muḥammad bin Mūsā al-Khawarizimī in his *Ṣūrat al-Arḍ* mentions a number of British regions in 817, and an Arabic inscription from the same century can be found on the Ballycottin cross.[6] In the early 900s, it is documented that ʿAbd al-Raḥmān bin Hārūn al-Maghribī reached Britain.[7] These reports suggest that Muslims had reached and interacted with Britons on their native soil, and abroad through trade, from very early on; possibly from the beginning of the eighth century.

Map of Dál Riata at its height, c 580–600. Pictish regions are marked in yellow.

Satellite image of Scotland and Northern Ireland showing the approximate greatest extent of Dál Riata (shaded). The mountainous spine which separates the east and west coasts of Scotland can be seen.

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WHEN PHOENICIANS BECAME MUSLIMS AFTER THE MUSLIM CONQUEST OF SYRIA, ISLAM TRANSFERRED TO SCOTLAND